

# The Meredith Herald

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## #BeBoldForChange

Emma Gomes, Staff Writer

For over a century, women worldwide have confronted gender inequality by demanding social and economic equality, and equal opportunity. Being robbed of these fundamental rights have placed women at a disadvantage in both their personal and professional lives.

In 1909, a group of factory workers in New York City marched out of the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory (TSF) in protest of horrible working conditions and safety hazards in their workplace. These factory workers were predominantly young female immigrants whose efforts went unnoticed until 1911, when a

deadly industrial fire erupted at TSF, resulting in 146 deaths. Mothers, daughters, and sisters lost their lives due to neglected safety features in the factory that could have been easily improved. Without even knowing it, these women started a revolution that would be noted in history as International Women's Day on March 8, 1914. Since then, countries across the world have advocated and supported this movement in an effort to create a safer world where women can exercise their rights without fear of violence and discrimination.

The gender gap, a term that describes the difference

in rates of pay between men and women, is a focal point of women's rights. Although the gender gap has narrowed, it is estimated that the gap itself will not close until 2064 in the state of North Carolina. According to NC statistics, women are paid 85 cents for every dollar that men make. This gap may take a few decades to narrow, but the fight for gender equality has strengthened over the years.

In celebration of International Women's Day on Wednesday, March 8, 2017, the International Women's Day campaign asks us to #BeBoldForChange. We can

take action in our everyday lives by celebrating women's achievements, challenging bias conversations, speaking out against violence, and supporting local businesses in Raleigh started by women. As Meredith Angels, we are continuing to prove the idea that women are a force to be reckoned with. We must continue this legacy by using that power to Be Bold For Change. Visit [internationalwomensday.com](http://internationalwomensday.com) for more details. Sources: [washingtonpost.com](http://washingtonpost.com), [history.com](http://history.com), and [un.org](http://un.org).

## Ethics Bowl

Emily Chilton, Editor in Chief

On Feb. 17 and 18, the five members of the Meredith College Ethics Bowl Team came in second place at the sixth annual NCICU Ethics Bowl.

Interestingly, women's colleges took first and second place, with Salem College coming out on top. Rachel Crawford, Caroline Garrett, Anna Mangum, Hannah Mangum, and Fareena Qamar comprised the Ethics Bowl Team this year, and the competition's theme was "Ethics in Law." Cheryl Jenkins, director of SLS, and Dr. Steven Benko, professor of Religious and Ethical Studies, are the faculty coordinators for the team.

Team member Rachel Crawford had this to say about the competition: "In general, I love competitive activities, especially ones that allow me to work hard at something and gain a new skill.

Ethics Bowl was perfect for that because it required a lot of hard work and late-night practices, especially in the couple weeks leading up to the bowl, but I really feel like we all grew together as a team and gained these unique skills that allowed us to get so far in the competition.

I think it is relevant that the finalists were two women's colleges (us and Salem College). After one of the rounds, I remember one of the judges saying that he was impressed by our confidence as women. We had been warned leading up to the bowl that we have an inherent disadvantage as women because male students on the other teams would naturally have more confidence; as women, we are just socialized to be less sure of ourselves. So we kept that in mind while preparing for the bowl,

and I'm sure Salem had the same thing in mind. I think it resulted in us being a lot more aware of our voice level and body language, making sure we were professional and exuded confidence.

It was really a team effort - we had an amazing team and we all really bonded. No one was ever slacking off, either; we all worked together and always lifted each other up whenever we could. I think ultimately that is why we did so well - we just all love each other so much, and that positive and supportive attitude kept us energized."

Her teammate Anna Mangum added: "The thing I enjoyed the most about ethics bowl in general were the friendships I made within the Meredith team. The five of us were pulled together and instantly thrown into an atmosphere where

small talk didn't have a place - we jumped straight to the big questions. There weren't many, "How was your class?"s but there were plenty, "I just had an existential crisis, listen to how I think the universe is organized"s. The women on the team are unique and irreplaceable minds and I'm beyond grateful I had the chance to get to know them.

It was certainly exciting to have the finals round be between two women's colleges. So often, you hear about how women will be talked over in the workplace or in situations where men are involved, but here were two teams with women so strong in their convictions and giving their all to get their points across. They would not be ignored. To see the product of women's empowerment [that] women's colleges provide come to life, it was moving."

## Elaine Marshall Receives Woman of Achievement Award

Cristy Villalobos, Staff Writer

This year's Meredith College Woman of Achievement award is granted to the North Carolina Secretary of State, Elaine Marshall. Recipients of the Woman of Achievement award are recognized as inspirational figures to the Meredith College community. Previous recipients of this award include former N.C. Supreme Court Chief Justice Sarah Parker, journalist Judy Woodruff, and Tony Award-winning choreographer Twyla Tharp. Elaine Marshall's hard work in public service has reflected historical strides for women.

Elaine Marshall was the first woman to be elected to statewide executive office in North Carolina in 1996. She has served as the Secretary of State for over 20 years. As our Secretary of State, she has focused on cyber threats to business data, and business

identity fraud and hacking. Before taking office, Marshall received a Bachelor of Science in Home Economics from the University of Maryland, and a law degree from Campbell University. She has received honorary doctorate degrees from Campbell University, Lees-McRae College, Meredith College and the Republic of Moldova Testemitanu State University of Medicine.

Initially, her career in public service included teaching home economics in public schools and community college systems. However, after becoming a lawyer, she worked in private practice. She was as an advocate for clients who were victims of domestic violence. Marshall served in the North Carolina Senate for one year, before becoming Secretary of State in 1996. She is responsible for managing and promoting the

economic and business-related operations of state government. The State Department is tasked with overseeing corporations, charitable solicitations, notaries, securities and lobbying. Outside of her career, Secretary Marshall enjoys ACC football and basketball, cooking, and gardening.

Photo Credit: Meredith College

